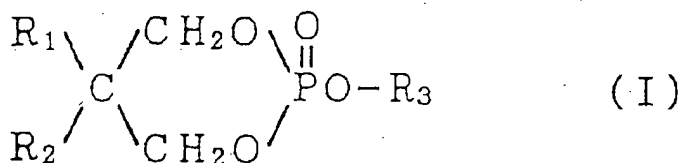


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims as follows.

1. (Currently amended) A method of imparting flame retardance to at least one resin comprising adding to said resin a compound containing a phosphoric ester represented by the formula (I):



wherein R₁ and R₂, the same or different, are an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 6 and R₃ is an alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 20, and wherein the resin comprises a polyurethane resin.

2. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein R₁ and R₂ in the formula (I) are straight-chain or branched alkyl groups having a carbon number of 1 to 4.

3. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 1, wherein R₃ in the formula (I) is a straight-chain or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 4.

4. (Original) A flame retardant for resins as set forth in claim 1, wherein R₁ and R₂ in the formula (I) are methyl groups and R₃ is a n-propyl or n-butyl group

5. (Previously presented) A flame-retarded resin composition comprising a resin

and a flame retardant for resins as set forth in claim 1.

6. (Original) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 5, wherein the resin does not contain a halogen.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 5, wherein 0.1 to 50 parts by weight of the flame-retardant is blended therein with respect to 100 parts by weight of the resin.

9. (Previously presented) A method as set forth in claim 2, wherein R_3 in the formula (I) is a straight-chain or branched alkyl group having a carbon number of 1 to 4.

10. (Previously presented) A flame-retarded resin composition comprising a resin and a flame retardant for resins as set forth in claim 2.

11. (Previously presented) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 10, wherein the resin does not contain a halogen.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 6, wherein 0.1 to 50 parts by weight of the flame-retardant is blended therein with respect to 100 parts by weight of the resin.

14. (Previously presented) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 1 [[7]], wherein 0.1 to 50 parts by weight of the flame-retardant is blended therein with

respect to 100 parts by weight of the resin.

15 (New) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 14, comprising a mixture of two or more species of formula (I).

16. (New) A flame-retarded resin composition as set forth in claim 14, further comprising one or more additives selected from trimethyl phosphate, triethyl phosphate, tributyl phosphate, triphenyl phosphate, tricresyl phosphate, cresyldiphenyl phosphate, tri-2-ethylhexyl phosphate.